

Islands in the Stream Expedition

2001 Field Season

Dive Summary

Middle Grounds

6/21/2001

Florida Middle Grounds/West Florida Shelf, Islands in the Stream

Overview of Dive A20-135 at Middle Grounds

Gale Mead piloted this dive at the site known as Middle Grounds on 6/21/2001 starting at 9:20:00. Total dive time was 5:01:29 and the maximum depth reached was 75 feet. (All times CST)

Dive Objectives. Objectives accomplished during the dive include:

Exploration/Recon

Fish Assessment

Benthic Assessment

Geologic Assessment

Transect(s)

Filming

Sample Collection

Primary

Data Collected. Types of data collected during the dive include:

Tracking

Digital Video Tapes 1

Digital Video Tapes 1

Digital Video Tapes 1

Digital Video Tapes 1

Digital Video Tapes 1

Living Marine Resources Abundance

few 2-10; many 11 - 100; abundant >100

Pelagic Fish	Few	Other Benthic
Bottom Fish	Abundant	
Crustacean	Many	
Mollusk	None	
Echinoderm	Many	

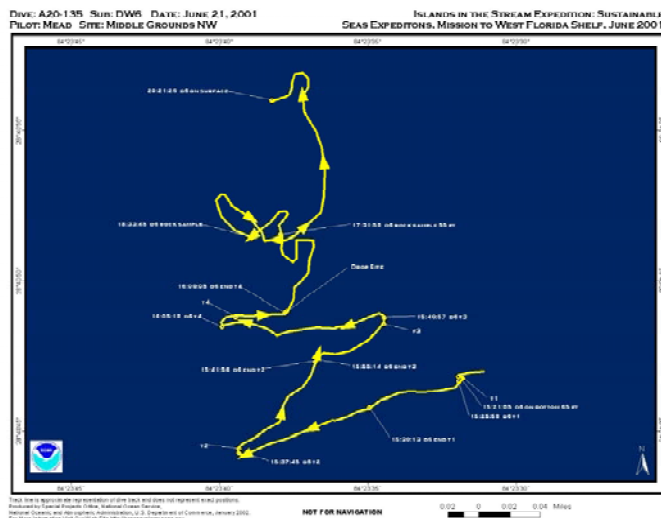
Observations and Comments on Living Marine Resources:

General Comments

None.

Dive Track Description

Landed on hard bottom w/occasional rock mounds and thin layer of sand. Transited over same and areas of sand waves. Thick patches of furry algae in some areas 75% cover. Some rocky sections w/mounds up to 1m. tall. Moderate current sometimes east, sometimes south. Relief of features observed during the dive ranged from 0 to 1 meters.



Observed Human Activities

None Observed.

Observed Human Impacts

None Observed.

Overall Dive Site Ratings

1 = low; 10 = high

Uniqueness	4
Health	6
Disturbance	4
Biodiversity	6

Observed Fish Abundance

few 2-10; many 11 - 100; abundant >100

Fish Abundance not recorded.



Prepared by :
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
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